100th Congress
1st Session

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RULES OF PROCEDURE

OF THE

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SECRET MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO IRAN AND THE NICARAGUAN OPPOSITION

UNITED STATES SENATE

MAY 1987

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100TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 23

Establishing a select committee of the Senate to conduct an investigation and study of activities by the National Security Council and other agencies of the United States Government with respect to the direct or indirect sale, shipment, or other provision of arms to Iran and the use of the proceeds from any such transaction to provide assistance to any faction or insurgency in Nicaragua or in any other foreign country, or to further any other purpose, and related matters.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 6, 1987

Mr. BYRD (for himself, Mr. DOLE, Mr. INOUYE, and Mr. RUDMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered, modified, and agreed to

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RESOLUTION

Establishing a select committee of the Senate to conduct an investigation and study of activities by the National Security Council and other agencies of the United States Government with respect to the direct or indirect sale, shipment, or other provision of arms to Iran and the use of the proceeds from any such transaction to provide assistance to any faction or insurgency in Nicaragua or in any other foreign country, or to further any other purpose, and related matters.

Resolved,

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. (a) There is established a select committee of the Senate to be known as the Select Committee on Secret Military Assistance to Iran and the Nicaraguan Opposition (hereafter in this resolution referred to as the "select committee").

(b) The purpose of the select committee is—

(1) to conduct an investigation into, and study of, all matters which have any tendency to reveal the full facts about—

(A) any activity of—

(i) the National Security Council or of any member or staff thereof,

(ii) any other department, agency, or entity of the United States Government or of any officer or employee thereof,

(iii) any foreign government, or of any agency or instrumentality thereof, or of any officer or employee thereof, or

(iv) any other individual, group, corporation, entity, or organization,

which relates to—

(I) the direct or indirect sale, shipment, or other provision of arms, or the

direct or indirect provision of materiel, funds, or other assistance, to Iran,

(II) the use of the proceeds from any transaction described in subclause (I) to provide assistance to any faction or insurgency in Nicaragua or in any other foreign country, or to further any political purpose or activity within the United States, or to further any other purpose of any nature whatsoever,

(III) the generation and use of any other money, item of value, or service to provide assistance to the Nicaraguan democratic resistance, or

(IV) the provision of coordination of support for persons or entities engaged as insurgents in armed conflict with the Government of Nicaragua,

in order to determine whether any such activity was illegal, improper, unauthorized, or unethical;

(B) any other activity, circumstance, material, or transaction having a tendency to prove or disprove that any official of the United States Government, or any other person, acting either individually or in combination with others, en-

gaged in any activity which was illegal, improper, unauthorized, or unethical, in connection with any activity described in subclause (I), (II), (III), or (IV) of clause (A) or in connection with the operations described in clause (C); and

(C) the suitability of the structure and operations of the National Security Council, and persons serving as staff, consultants, or agents thereto, for any function related to the formulation, implementation, or conduct of American national security policy; and

(2)(A) to make such findings of fact as are warranted and appropriate;

(B) to make such recommendations, including recommendations for new legislation and amendments to existing laws and any administrative or other actions, as the select committee may determine to be necessary or desirable; and

(C) to fulfill the Constitutional oversight and informing function of the Congress with respect to the matters described in this section.

(c) For purposes of this section, the term "Iran" includes the Government of Iran, any agency or instrumentality thereof, any officer or employee thereof, or any person purporting to represent the Government of Iran or any

agency or instrumentality thereof, any national of Iran, or any person located in Iran.

MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE

SEC. 2. (a)(1) The select committee shall consist of eleven members of the Senate, six of whom shall be appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate from the majority party of the Senate upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader of the Senate, and five of whom shall be appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate from the minority party of the Senate upon the recommendation of the Minority Leader of the Senate.

(2) Vacancies in the membership of the select committee shall not affect the authority of the remaining members to execute the functions of the select committee and shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments to it are made.

(3) For the purpose of paragraph 4 of rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, service of a Senator as a member, chairman, or vice chairman of the select committee shall not be taken into account.

(b)(1) The chairman of the select committee shall be selected by the Majority Leader of the Senate and the vice chairman of the select committee shall be selected by the Minority Leader of the Senate. The vice chairman shall dis-

charge such responsibilities as the select committee or the chairman may assign.

(2) A majority of the voting members of the select committee shall constitute a quorum for reporting a matter or recommendation to the Senate, except that the select committee may fix a lesser number as a quorum for the purpose of taking testimony before the select committee or for conducting the other business of the select committee.

(c)(1) The select committee shall promptly adopt rules and procedures not inconsistent with the rules and procedures of the Senate.

(2) The rules and procedures of the select committee shall—

(A) govern the proceedings of the select committee; and

(B) consistent with section 6 of this resolution—

(i) provide for the security of the records of the select committee and the protection of classified information and materials; and

(ii) prevent the unauthorized disclosure of information and materials obtained by the select committee in the course of its investigation and study.

STAFF OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE

SEC. 3. (a)(1) To assist the select committee in its investigation and study, the chairman, after consultation with the

vice chairman and the approval of the select committee, shall appoint the committee staff.

(2) All staff shall work for the select committee as a whole, shall report to the chairman and vice chairman and, except as otherwise provided by the select committee, shall be under the direction of the chairman.

(b) To assist the select committee in its investigation and study, the Senate Legal Counsel and Deputy Senate Legal Counsel shall work with and under the jurisdiction and authority of the select committee.

(c) The Majority and Minority leaders of the Senate may each designate one staff person to serve on the staff of the select committee to serve as their liaison to the select committee.

(d) The Comptroller General of the United States is requested to provide from the General Accounting Office whatever personnel, investigatory, material, or other appropriate assistance may be required by the select committee.

PUBLIC ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE

SEC. 4. (a) Consistent with—

(1) the rights of persons subject to investigation and inquiry,

(2) considerations of national security, including the protection of sources and methods of intelligence gathering and analysis, and

(3) the interests of the relationship of the United States with other nations,

the select committee shall make every effort to fulfill the right of the public and the Congress to know the essential facts and implications of the activities of officials of the United States Government and other persons and entities with respect to the matters under investigation and study as described in section 1.

(b) In furtherance of the public's and Congress' right to know, the select committee—

(1) shall hold, as it considers appropriate, open hearings;

(2) may make interim reports to the Senate as it considers appropriate; and

(3) shall make a final comprehensive public report to the Senate which contains a description of all relevant factual determinations consistent with subsection (a) of this section and section 1(b)(2) and which contains recommendations for new legislation and other actions pursuant to the goal of an open, lawful, and effective conduct of American national security policy and, when necessary, lawful intelligence activities in support of American national security policy.

(c) The decision as to what matters shall be heard in closed or open session shall be determined by the select com-

mittee in accordance with paragraph 5(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

POWERS OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE

SEC. 5. (a) The select committee shall do everything necessary and appropriate under the laws and Constitution of the United States to make the investigation and study specified in section 1.

(b) The select committee is authorized to issue subpoenas for obtaining testimony and for the production of documentary or physical evidence. A subpoena may be authorized and issued by the select committee, acting through the chairman or any other member designated by the chairman, and may be served by any person designated by such chairman or other member anywhere within or without the borders of the United States to the full extent permitted by law. The chairman of the select committee, or any other member thereof, is authorized to administer oaths to any witnesses appearing before the committee.

(c) The select committee may exercise the powers conferred upon committees of the Senate by sections 6002 and 6005 of title 18, United States Code.

(d) The select committee is authorized to do the following:

(1) To employ and fix the compensation of such clerical, investigatory, legal, technical, and other as-

sistants as the select committee considers necessary or appropriate.

(2) To sit and act at any time or place during sessions, recesses, and adjournment periods of the Senate.

(3) To hold hearings for taking testimony under oath or to receive documentary or physical evidence relating to the matters and questions it is authorized to investigate or study.

(4) To require by subpoena or order the attendance, as witnesses before the select committee or at depositions, of any person who may have knowledge or information concerning any of the matters the select committee is authorized to investigate and study.

(5) To take depositions and other testimony under oath anywhere within the United States or in any other country, to issue orders by the chairman or any other member designated by the chairman which require witnesses to answer written interrogatories under oath, to make application for issuance of letters rogatory, and to request, through appropriate channels, other means of international assistance, as appropriate.

(6) To issue commissions and to notice depositions for staff members to examine witnesses and to receive evidence under oath administered by an individual authorized by local law to administer oaths. The select

committee, acting through the chairman, may authorize and issue, and may delegate to designated staff members the power to authorize and issue, commissions and deposition notices.

(7) To require by subpoena or order—

(A) any department, agency, entity, officer, or employee of the United States Government,

(B) any person or entity purporting to act under color or authority of State or local law, or

(C) any private person, firm, corporation, partnership, or other organization,

to produce for its consideration or for use as evidence in the investigation or study of the select committee any book, check, canceled check, correspondence, communication, document, financial record, paper, physical evidence, photograph, record, recording, tape, or any other material relating to any of the matters or questions such committee is authorized to investigate and study which they or any of them may have in their custody or under their control.

(8) To make to the Senate any recommendations, including recommendations for criminal or civil enforcement, which the select committee may consider appropriate with respect to—

(A) the willful failure or refusal of any person to appear before it, or at a deposition, or to answer interrogatories, in obedience to a subpoena or order;

(B) the willful failure or refusal of any person to answer questions or give testimony during his appearance as a witness before such committee, or at a deposition, or in response to interrogatories; or

(C) the willful failure or refusal of—

(i) any officer or employee of the United States Government,

(ii) any person or entity purporting to act under color or authority of State or local law, or

(iii) any private person, partnership, firm, corporation, or organization,

to produce before the committee, or at a deposition, or at any time or place designated by the committee, any book, check, canceled check, correspondence, communication, document, financial record, paper, physical evidence, photograph, record, recording, tape, or any other material in obedience to any subpoena or order.

(9) To procure the temporary or intermittent services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof, in the same manner and under the same conditions as a standing committee of the Senate may procure such services under section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 72a(i)).

(10) To use on a reimbursable basis, with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate, the services of personnel of such department or agency.

(11) To use, with the prior consent of the chairman of any other Senate committee or the chairman of any subcommittee of any committee of the Senate, the facilities or services of any members of the staff of such other Senate committee whenever the select committee or its chairman considers that such action is necessary or appropriate to enable the select committee to make the investigation and study provided for in this resolution.

(12) To have access through the agency of any members of the select committee, staff director, chief counsel, or any of its investigatory assistants designated by the chairman, to any data, evidence, information, report, analysis, document, or paper—

(A) which relates to any of the matters or questions which the select committee is authorized to investigate or study;

(B) which is in the custody or under the control of any department, agency, entity, officer, or employee of the United States Government, including those which have—

(i) the power under the laws of the United States to investigate any alleged criminal activities or to prosecute persons charged with crimes against the United States; or

(ii) the authority to, or which in fact has, conducted intelligence gathering or intelligence activities,

without regard to the jurisdiction or authority of any other Senate committee; and

(C) which will aid the select committee to prepare for or conduct the investigation and study authorized and directed by this resolution.

(13) To report violations of any law to the appropriate Federal, State, or local authorities.

(14) To expend, to the extent the select committee determines necessary and appropriate, any moneys made available to such committee by the Senate to

make the investigation, study, and reports authorized by this resolution.

(e) The level of compensation payable to any employee of the select committee shall not be subject to any limitation on compensation otherwise applicable to an employee of the Senate.

PROTECTION OF CONFIDENTIAL AND CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

SEC. 6. (a)(1) Before being given access to any classified information, any member of the staff of, or consultant to, the select committee shall have the appropriate security clearance and a need to know such information. The chairman of the select committee shall decide which select committee staff members and consultants are required to have security clearances.

(2) All staff members and consultants shall, as a condition of employment, agree in writing to abide by the conditions of an appropriate nondisclosure agreement promulgated by the select committee.

(3) The case of any Senator who violates the security procedures of the select committee may be referred to the Select Committee on Ethics of the Senate for the imposition of sanctions in accordance with the rules of the Senate. Any staff member or consultant who violates the security procedures of the select committee shall immediately be subject to removal from office or employment with the select committee

or shall be subject to such other sanction as may be provided in the rules of the select committee.

(b)(1) Any classified information obtained by the select committee either directly from the Executive branch of the United States Government, through the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate, or by other means, shall be disclosed only in the same manner in which such information may be disclosed under the provisions of section 8 of Senate Resolution 400 (Ninety-fourth Congress, second session), except that references to the Select Committee on Intelligence in such section shall be deemed to be references to the select committee established under this resolution.

(2) The select committee shall make suitable arrangements, in consultation with the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate, for the physical protection and storage or classified information provided to the select committee.

(3) Upon the termination of the select committee pursuant to section 9 of this resolution, all records, files, documents, and other materials in the possession, custody, or control of the select committee, under appropriate conditions established by such committee, shall be transferred to the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate.

RELATION TO OTHER INVESTIGATIONS

SEC. 7. (a) In order to—

(1) expedite the thorough conduct of the investigation and study authorized by this resolution,

(2) promote efficiency among all the various investigations underway in all branches of the United States Government, and

(3) engender a high degree of confidence on the part of the public regarding the conduct of such investigation,

the select committee is encouraged—

(A) to seek the full cooperation of all relevant investigatory bodies, and

(B) to seek access to all information which is acquired and developed by such bodies.

(b)(1) The Select Committee on Intelligence is hereby directed to prepare and provide to the select committee, in closed session a report of its investigation into matters described in section 1 of this resolution, which report shall include a summary of the testimony and chronology of events developed by the Select Committee on Intelligence, together with a listing of unresolved questions and issues which it recommends be pursued by the select committee as soon as possible, and the select committee may release as much of the information in such report to the public as it deems advisable, consistent with the interest of the public and national security, and is deemed by the committee to be in the public interest after a determination by such committee that the public interest would be served by such disclosure.

(2) The select committee, through its members and appropriate staff, shall be provided full access to all records, files, documents and other materials in the possession, custody, or control of the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate, obtained or produced by the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate with respect to any matter described in section 1 of this resolution.

(3) All subpoenas issued by the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate on any matter described in section 1 of this resolution shall continue in force and may be enforced by the select committee as if issued by the select committee.

(c) The Senate requests that any independent counsel appointed pursuant to chapter 39 of title 28, United States Code, to investigate any matter related to a matter described in section 1 of this resolution, make available to the select committee, as expeditiously as possible, all documents and information which may assist the select committee in its investigation and study.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

SEC. 8. Such sums as are necessary shall be available from the contingent fund of the Senate out of the Account for Expenses for Inquiries and Investigations for payment of salaries and other expenses of the select committee under this resolution, which shall include sums which shall be available for the procurement of the services of individual consultants

or organizations thereof, in accordance with section 5(d)(9). Payment of expenses shall be disbursed upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the select committee, except that vouchers shall not be required for the disbursement of salaries paid at an annual rate.

REPORTS; TERMINATION

SEC. 9. (a)(1) The select committee shall make a final public report to the Senate of the results of the investigation and study conducted by such committee pursuant to this resolution, together with its findings and any recommendations at the earliest practicable date, but not later than August 1, 1987: *Provided*, That on or before August 1, 1987 a privileged motion made by the majority leader, to be debatable for no more than 1 hour, in the usual form, shall be in order, namely, "I move that the time be extended from August 1, 1987 to October 30, 1987 for the investigation by and final report of the select committee." The select committee shall also submit to the Senate such interim reports as it considers appropriate.

(2) The final report of the select committee may be accompanied by whatever classified or confidential annexes are necessary to protect classified or confidential information, particularly intelligence sources and methods.

(b) After submission of its final report, the select committee shall conclude its business and close out its affairs as expeditiously as practicable.

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RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SECRET MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO IRAN AND THE NICARAGUAN OPPOSITION

(Adopted January 15, 1987; published in the Congressional Record January 22, 1987, as amended)

RULE 1. CONVENING OF MEETINGS AND HEARINGS

1.1 *Meetings.* The committee shall meet at the call of the chairman. The members of the committee may call special meetings as provided in Senate Rule XXVI(3).

1.2 *Notice.* The committee shall publicly announce the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing at least one week before its commencement. A hearing may be called on shorter notice if the chairman, after consultation with the vice chairman, determines that there is good cause to begin it at an earlier date.

1.3 *Presiding Officer.* The chairman shall preside when present. If the chairman is not present at any meeting or hearing, the vice chairman shall preside. The chairman may designate any member of the committee to preside in the absence of the chairman or vice chairman.

RULE 2. CLOSED SESSIONS

2.1 *Procedure.* All meetings and hearings shall be open to the public unless closed. To close all or part of a hearing or meeting, or a series of hearings or meetings for a period of no more than 14 days, the committee shall vote in open session by a record vote, including proxy votes, of a majority of the members of the committee. If discussion is necessary, a motion shall be made and seconded to go into closed session to discuss whether the meeting or hearing will concern the matters enumerated in Rule 2.2. Immediately after such discussion the committee shall return to open session and the meeting or hearing may then be closed by a record vote.

2.2 *Closed Session Subjects.* A meeting or hearing may be closed if the matters to be discussed concern: (1) national security or the confidential conduct of foreign relations; (2) committee staff personnel or internal staff management or procedure; (3) matters tending to reflect adversely on the character or reputation, or to invade the privacy, of any individuals; (4) matters that will disclose the identity of any informer or undercover law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that is required to be kept secret in the interests of effective law enforcement; or (5) other matters enumerated in Senate Rule XXVI(5)(b).

2.3 *Witness Request.* Any witness may submit to the chairman, no later than 24 hours in advance of a hearing, a written request to be examined in closed or open session. The chairman shall

inform the committee of the request, and the committee shall take such action pursuant to Rule 2.1 as it deems appropriate.

2.4 *Broadcasting.*

(a) *Control.* Any meeting or hearing open to the public may be covered by television, radio, or still photography. Coverage must be conducted in an orderly and unobtrusive manner, and the presiding officer may for good cause terminate coverage in whole or in part or take other action to promote orderly proceedings.

(b) *Request.* A witness may request of the presiding officer on grounds of distraction, harassment, personal safety, or physical discomfort that during his or her testimony cameras, media microphones, and lights shall not be directed at the witness, and the presiding officer may take such action as he deems appropriate.

RULE 3. QUORUMS AND VOTING

3.1 *Reporting.* Six members shall constitute a quorum for reporting a matter or recommendation to the Senate.

3.2 *Other Business.* Six members, or four members providing that a member of the minority is present, shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of other business.

3.3 *Testimony.* One member shall constitute a quorum for hearing testimony.

3.4 *Proxies.* Proxies shall be in writing, and shall be filed with the chief clerk by the absent member or by a member present at the meeting. Proxies shall contain sufficient reference to the pending matter to show that the absent member has been informed of it and has affirmatively requested that he be recorded as voting on it. Proxies shall not be counted towards a quorum.

3.5 *Polling.*

(a) *Subjects.* The committee may poll only (1) internal committee matters including the committee's staff, records, and budget; (2) authorization for steps in the investigation, including the authorization and issuance of subpoenas and deposition notices, applications for immunity orders, and requests for documents; (3) other committee business, not including a vote on reporting to the Senate, that the committee at a meeting has designated for polling at a subsequent time.

(b) *Procedure.* At the direction of the committee or the chairman, as provided in Rule 3.5(a), polling sheets shall be circulated to each member specifying the matter being polled and the time limit for completion of the poll. If any member so requests, the matter shall be held for consideration at a meeting. The chief clerk shall keep a record of polls; if the chairman, with the approval of a majority of the members, determines that the polled matter is in one of the areas enumerated in Rule 2.3, the record of the poll shall be confidential.

RULE 4. SUBPOENAS

4.1 *Authorization.* Subpoenas may be authorized by the committee or by the chairman and may be issued by the chairman or by any other member designated by him. The chief clerk shall keep a log, and a file, of all subpoenas.

4.2 *Return.* A subpoena duces tecum or order for documents may be issued whose return shall occur at a deposition or at another time and place other than at a hearing. When a return on such a subpoena or order is incomplete or accompanied by an objection, the chairman may convene a meeting or hearing on shortened notice to determine the adequacy of the return and to rule on the objection or may refer the issues raised by the return for decision by poll of the committee. At a meeting or hearing on such a return, one member shall constitute a quorum.

RULE 5. HEARINGS

5.1 *Notice.* Witnesses shall be given at least 48 hours notice, unless the chairman determines that extraordinary circumstances warrant shorter notice, and all witnesses shall be furnished with a copy of Senate Resolution 23 and of these rules.

5.2 *Oath.* All witnesses who testify to matters of fact shall be sworn unless the committee authorizes waiver of an oath.

5.3 *Statement.* Any witness desiring to make an introductory statement shall file 20 copies of the statement with the chairman or chief clerk 48 hours in advance of the appearance, unless the chairman determines that there is good cause for a witness's failure to do so. A witness may be required to summarize a prepared statement if it exceeds ten minutes. Unless the committee determines otherwise, a witness who appears before the committee under a grant of immunity shall not be permitted to make a statement or testify except to respond directly to questions posed by committee members or committee staff.

5.4 *Counsel.*

(a) *Presence.* A witness's counsel shall be permitted to be present during the witness's testimony at any public or closed hearing or deposition or staff interview to advise the witness of his or her rights; provided, however, that in the case of any witness who is an officer or employee of the government, or of a corporation or association, the chairman or the committee may rule that representation by counsel from the government, corporation, or association or by counsel representing other witnesses, creates a conflict of interest, and that the witness shall be represented by personal counsel not from the government, corporation, or association or not representing other witnesses.

(b) *Inability to Obtain Counsel.* A witness who is unable for indigence or other reason to obtain counsel shall inform the committee at least 48 hours prior to the witness's appearance, and the committee will endeavor to obtain volunteer counsel for the witness. Failure to obtain counsel will not excuse the witness from appearing and testifying.

(c) *Conduct.* Counsel shall behave in an ethical and professional manner. Failure to do so shall, upon a finding to that effect by a majority of the members present, subject counsel to disciplinary action, which may include warning, censure, or ejection.

5.5 *Transcript.* An accurate electronic or stenographic record shall be kept of all testimony in closed and public hearings. At a witness's request and expense, access to a copy of a witness's testimony in public or closed session shall be provided to the witness.

Upon inspecting the transcript, within a time limit set by the chief clerk, a witness may in writing request changes in the transcript to correct errors of transcription, grammatical errors, and obvious errors of fact; the chairman or a staff officer designated by him shall rule on such requests.

5.6 *Impugned Persons.* Any person who believes that evidence presented, or comment made by a member or staff, at a public hearing or at a closed hearing concerning which there have been public reports, tends to impugn his or her character or adversely affect his or her reputation may:

(a) file a sworn statement of facts relevant to the evidence or comment, which shall be placed in the hearing record;

(b) request the opportunity to appear personally before the committee to testify in his or her own behalf; or

(c) request that submitted written questions be used for the cross-examination of witnesses called by the committee. The chairman shall inform the committee of requests for appearance or cross-examination. If the committee so decides, the requested questions, or paraphrased versions or portions of them, shall be put to the other witnesses by a member or by staff.

5.7 *Additional Witnesses.* Any three members of the committee shall be entitled, upon a timely request made to the chairman, to call additional witnesses or to require the production of documents during at least one day of hearing.

RULE 6. DEPOSITIONS, EXAMINATION OF RECORDS, AND INTERROGATORIES

6.1 *Deposition Notices.* Notices for the taking of depositions shall be authorized and issued by the chairman or by a staff member designated by him. Such notices shall specify a time and place for examination, and the name of the staff member or members who will take the deposition. Unless otherwise specified, the deposition shall be in private. The committee shall not initiate procedures leading to criminal or civil enforcement proceedings for a witness's failure to appear unless the deposition notice was accompanied by a subpoena authorized by the committee or the chairman.

6.2 *Counsel at Depositions.* Witnesses may be accompanied at a deposition by counsel to advise them of their rights, subject to the provisions of Rule 5.4.

6.3 *Deposition Procedure.* Witnesses at depositions shall be examined upon oath administered by a member or an individual authorized by local law to administer oaths. Questions shall be propounded orally by staff members. Objections by the witness as to the form of questions shall be noted for the record. If a witness objects to a question and refuses to testify on the basis of relevance or privilege, the committee staff may proceed with the deposition, or may, at that time or at a subsequent time, seek a ruling by telephone or otherwise on the objection from the chairman of the committee or a member designated by him. If the chairman or designated member overrules the objection, he may refer the matter to the committee or he may order and direct the witness to answer the questions, but the committee shall not initiate procedures lead-

ing to civil or criminal enforcement unless the witness refuses to testify after having been ordered and directed to answer.

6.4 *Filing of Depositions.* The committee staff shall see that deposition testimony is transcribed or electronically recorded. If it is transcribed, the witness shall be furnished with a copy, or access to a copy, for review. No later than five days thereafter, if a copy is provided, the witness shall return it with his or her signature, and the staff may enter the changes, if any, requested by the witness in accordance with Rule 5.5. If the witness fails to return a signed copy the staff shall note on the transcript the date a copy was provided and the failure to return it. The individual administering the oath shall certify on the transcript that the witness was duly sworn in his or her presence, the transcriber shall certify that the transcript is a true record of the testimony, and the transcript shall then be filed with the chief clerk. Committee staff may stipulate with the witness to changes in this procedure. Objections to errors in this procedure that might be cured if promptly presented are waived unless timely objection is made.

6.5 *Examination of Records.* The committee or the chairman may authorize the staff to inspect locations or systems of records on behalf of the committee.

6.6 *Written Interrogatories.* Written interrogatories may be authorized and issued by the chairman or by any member designated by the chairman and shall specify a date for filing an answer with the chief clerk. Written interrogatories shall be answered under oath.

RULE 7. PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING OF SENSITIVE OR CLASSIFIED MATERIALS

7.1 *Security.* Committee offices shall operate under strict security precautions. The chairman may request the Senate Sergeant at Arms to provide assistance necessary to ensure strict security.

7.2 *Sensitive or Classified Materials.* Sensitive or classified materials shall be segregated in a secure storage area. The committee shall adopt security regulations governing the handling of sensitive or classified materials. The chairman may enter into agreements to obtain materials and information under assurances concerning confidentiality. Each member of the committee shall be notified of such agreements.

7.3 *Access.* Staff access to classified materials shall be limited to staff members with appropriate security clearances and a need to know. The committee shall adopt internal guidelines governing staff access to particular categories of classified materials, which shall be applied by the chairman and vice chairman. Staff access to sensitive materials may be limited by the chairman and vice chairman.

7.4 *Nondisclosure.* No member of the committee or its staff shall disclose, in whole or in part or by way of summary, to any person outside the committee and its staff, for any purpose or in connection with any proceeding, judicial or otherwise, any testimony taken, including the names of witnesses testifying, or material presented, in depositions or at closed hearings, or any confidential materials or information, unless authorized by the committee or the

chairman, and, for classified materials or information, pursuant to the provisions of section 8 of Senate Resolution 400 of the 94th Congress.

7.5 *Nondisclosure Agreement.* All members of the committee staff shall agree in writing, as a condition of employment, to abide by the conditions of the nondisclosure agreement promulgated by the committee pursuant to section 6(a)(2) of Senate Resolution 23.

7.6 *Violations.* Allegations concerning unauthorized disclosure may be addressed by the committee or may be referred by a majority vote of the committee to the Select Committee on Ethics. Any member of the staff who fails to conform to the provisions of Rule 7 shall be subject to disciplinary sanction, including termination of employment.

7.7 *Applicability of Rules.* For purposes of Rules 6 and 7, committee staff include the employees of the committee, staff designated by the members, with the approval of the chairman, to work on committee business, the officers and employees of the Office of Senate Legal Counsel who are requested by the chairman to work on committee business, and detailees and consultants to the committee.

RULE 8. DETAILEES AND CONSULTANTS

The chairman shall have authority to use on a reimbursable basis, with the prior consent of the Committee on Rules and Administration, the services of personnel of any department or agency of the United States and shall have authority to procure the temporary or intermittent services of individual consultants or organizations.

RULE 9. EFFECTIVE CHANGES IN RULES

9.1 These rules shall become effective upon publication in the Congressional Record. These rules may be modified, amended, or repealed by the committee, provided that all members are present or provide proxies or if a notice in writing of the proposed changes has been given to each member at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at which action thereon is to be taken. The changes shall become effective immediately upon publication of the changed rule or rules in the Congressional Record, or immediately upon approval of the changes if so resolved by the committee so long as any witnesses who may be affected by the change in rules are provided with them.

RULE 10. JOINT HEARINGS

10.1 The Committee may conduct hearings jointly with the House Select Committee to Investigate Covert Arms Transactions with Iran.

10.2 Rules 3.2, 3.5, 5, 6.1–6.10, and 6.12 of the House Select Committee, to the extent that they are inconsistent with the rules of this Committee, shall govern hearings conducted jointly by the two Committees, when such hearings are held in facilities provided by the House.

10.3 Notwithstanding Rule 10.2, all such joint hearings shall for all purposes be considered hearings of this Senate Committee.

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